THORNEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1921.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The Ministry of Health has issued instructions that in future the Medical Officer shall submit a "Survey Report" every five years, embodying details of conditions which do not vary from year to year, and shall present an "Annual Report" dealing with various matter set out in an Appendix attached to the instructions: this report for the year 1921 has been drawn up accordingly.

1. General Statistics.

Area (acres) 18,959. (Thorney 17,842, Stanground North 1,117).
Population (1921) 2,240.
Number of Inhabited Houses 450.
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (1921) 463.
Rateable Value £46,952 16s. 0d.
Sum presented by a Penny Rate £124 6s. 6d.

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total.	Males.	Females.
BIRTHS :	Legitimate	52	25	27
	Illegitimate	1	1	—

Birth Rate (R.G.) ... 23·65 per 1,000

	Males.	Females.
DEATHS	10	7

Death Rate (R.G.) 7·54.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth

From sepsis ... ... None.
From other causes ... ... One.

Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births 75·47.

Legitimate ... 4 Illegitimate ... 0 Total 4.

Deaths from	Measles (all ages) ...	None.
,, ,,	Whooping Cough (all ages)	None.
,, ,,	Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Two.

There has been no excessive mortality during the year calling for special comment.

3. Notifiable Diseases During 1921.

	No. of cases notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Diptheria	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2	—	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—
Other Diseases			
Erysipelas	1	—	1
Tuberculosis			
Pulmonary	3	—	1 (miliary)
Other Forms	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	No cases.		

4. There have not been any causes of sickness and invalidity of special note during the year.

5. Summary of Nursing Arrangements, Hospitals, and other Institutions available for the district.

The Rural District Council does not provide any Nursing or Hospital accommodation as a matter of routine, but recognises its obligation to make adequate arrangements in certain emergencies. The Council has no Isolation Hospital.

The County Council employ some nurses who visit recently confined women, persons suffering from Tuberculosis, and certain school children

The Council does not employ or subsidise any Midwives, and there is no registered midwife living and practising in the district.

The County Council provides a Maternity and child welfare centre at March (nearest).

The same Authority undertakes the management of the School clinic.

Tuberculosis (Dispensary at March).

The nearest available clinic for dealing with Venereal Diseases is at the Peterborough Infirmary.

The District Council contributes towards the maintenance of the Small Pox Hospital situated on Peterborough Common, and has the right to utilise the accommodation provided there if necessary.

General Hospital treatment is to be obtained when needed at the Peterborough Infirmary, and there is also a small hospital at Wisbech.

There is no separate provision made by the Council for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children and homeless children, but being attached to the Union of Peterborough such cases can be dealt with at the Poor Law Infirmary at Peterborough.

The Council has no Ambulance.

There have been occasions in the past when the Borough Council of Peterborough has admitted cases of infectious diseases into the Isolation Hospital owing to special circumstances in the home rendering this course desirable.

6. The Medical Officer arranges for the examination of pathological specimens when necessary, and keeps a stock of Diphtheria anti-toxin and other sera as required by the Ministry, available for the use of practitioners needing them for the treatment of patients living within the area.

The Council has not adopted any Bye-laws, but requires plans to be submitted before any building is erected, and does not permit any house to be occupied until a certificate is issued by the Inspector as to the adequacy of water supply, &c.

7. There are no registered or licensed slaughter houses in the district. Disinfection of Houses or rooms is undertaken by the inspector when necessary, e.g. after occupation by persons suffering from scarlet fever, tuberculosis, &c.

8. The Officers of the Council responsible for public health work are the Medical Officer and the Inspector of Nuisances, both of whom are part-time officials.

9. Housing.

Number of New Houses erected during the year.

(a) Total	... ...	18.
(b) As part of a Housing Scheme		10.

Three houses were found to be in a state so dangerous and injurious to health and were closed.

The Inspector reports "No proceedings have been taken against any person during the year, and no systematic inspection has been made, but many houses have been visited especially regarding over-crowding, which I believe in this district is becoming less."

The conditions of housing are unusually good in the district.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HAROLD CLAPHAM.